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CYCLE SAFETY INFO

STATE MOTORCYCLE OPERATOR LICENSING — 1991

This is the 15th annual Cycle Safety Information Sheet reporting state procedures for licensing motorcyclists. The information is the result of a survey sent to licensing authorities in the nation's 51 licensing jurisdictions.

Licensing practices vary from state to state. In the past few years, these practices have become more standardized as states began adopting the Motorcycle Operator Skill Test (MOST), the *Motorcycle Operator Manual (MOM), the Motorcycle Operator Manual (MOM)* Knowledge Test, and Sharing the Road With Motorcycles information.

A growing number of states are adopting new motorcycle operator licensing programs each year. The Foundation's licensing department provides technical assistance and examiner training for states adopting the MOST, the Alternate MOST, the MIT, or the MLST.

The Motorcycle Operator Manual (MOM)

In addition to the skill test, a manual is available for motorcycle operators. The *Motorcycle Operator Manual (MOM)* includes information on proper protective gear, handling different road surfaces and reacting to emergencies. License applicants in a study group increased their knowledge 15 percent by reading the manual. MSF provides free printer's negatives on a loan basis to states adopting the manual.

The Motorcycle Knowledge Test

The Motorcycle Knowledge Test was developed from the contents of the *Motorcycle Operator Manual.* Using multiple choice questions and line drawings, the test emphasizes areas critical to safe riding. MSF will provide a set of tests and slides for duplication to states using automated testing machines.

The Motorcycle Skill Test Practice Guide

The Practice Guide is designed to provide motorcycle license applicants with a series of exercises that they can practice in a parking lot before they take their skills test. These exercises are not meant to replace a rider education course but simply to provide practice on necessary skills before testing. MSF loans printer negatives free to states that would like to provide this booklet to motorcycle applicants.

The Sharing The Road With Motorcycles Information Pamphlet

Studies have shown that most motorcycle accidents are caused by drivers of other vehicles. MSF has developed information for state driver manuals titled *Sharing The Road With Motorcycles.* It gives other drivers information on conditions and situations commonly faced by motorcyclists.

The Motorcycle Operator Skill Test (MOST)

Nearly three years of research resulted in the development of a new motorcycle operator testing procedure. Research shows the test works. In comparison with an existing state test, the Motorcycle Operator Skill Test (MOST) showed a 15-percent reduction in accidents. When coupled with a rider training program, accidents were reduced by 21 percent.

The MOST contains nine exercises that test the skills riders need to operate safely in traffic. Since the test only requires an area 50 by 125 feet, it can be set up in a parking lot. Some states, however, do not have enough space available to adopt the MOST. The Alternate MOST was developed specifically for these areas. It includes modified portions of important MOST exercises along with other basic control skills.

The Alternate Motorcycle Operator Skill Test (Alternate MOST)

The Alternate MOST was developed specifically for those areas with limited space available. It employs the use of manual timing equipment. Seven exercises test basic and collision avoidance skills in an off-street setting.

The Motorcyclist Licensing Skill Test (MLST)

The MLST is the most recently developed off street test. It draws on lessons learned from tests that had come before it. This test combines administrative practicality with test reliability and rider safety. Applicants are required to complete one basic control exercise and two collision-avoidance skills. Objective criteria is used to evaluate riding performance.

The Motorcyclist in Traffic Test (MIT)

Several states prefer to administer an in-traffic test. The MIT consists of 2[illegible] test situations, involves zone scoring, and planned observations. The applicant is scored by an examiner following the motorcycle in another vehicle.

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation's purpose is improving the safety of motorcyclists on the nation's streets and highways. To reduce motorcycle accidents and injuries, the Foundation has programs in rider education, licensing improvement, public information and research. These programs are designed for both motorcyclists and motorists. For the beginning or experienced rider training course nearest you, call the national toll-free telephone number, (800) 447-4700. A national, nonprofit organization, MSF is sponsored by five U.S. motorcycle distributors: Honda, Yamaha, Kawasaki, Suzuki and BMW.

1991

STATE	TYPE OF SKILL TEST	MOM ADOPTION	MOM KNOWLEDGE TEST	WAIVER FOR RIDER EDUCATION	NUMBER OF MOTOR CYCLE TESTING SITES	NUMBER OF DRIVER LICENSE EXAMINERS	NUMBER OF LICENSED DRIVERS (as of 6/30/90)	NUMBER OF LICENSED MOTORCYCLE OPERATORS (as of 6/30/90)	NUMBER OF MOTORCYCLE REGISTRATIONS	TYPE OF VEHICLE REGISTERED AS MOTORCYCLE
Alabama	None	Yes	No	N	73	133	2,906,559	4,821	52,715	F,G,H,I,J
Alaska	MOST/Alternate	Yes	No	N	32	36	364,989	N/A	12,461	D,E,F,G
Arizona	MOST/Alternate/MLST	Yes	Yes	N	16	180	2,416,057	153,884	76,091	C,D,E,F,G,J,M,N
Arkansas	Off-Street	No	No	N	50	25	1,717,578	63,372	16,586	A,C,D,E,F,M
California	Lollipop	Yes	Yes	N	176	529	19,577,100	847,370	664,819	F,G,H,I,J
Colorado	Alternate/On-Street	Yes	Yes	S	70	154	2,761,035	336,000	115,629	C,D,E,F,J,
Connecticut	Alternate	Yes	Yes	N	13	54	2,969,529	168,299	59,331	C,D,E,F,G,H,I,J,M
Delaware	Alternate	Yes	No	K,S	3	22	660,000	30,949	7,768	F
D.C.	Alternate	No	No	N	1	6	400,000	12,105	1,911	C,D,E,F,G,J
Florida	MOST/Alternate	Yes	Yes	K,S	77	880	11,109,288	413,255	203,913	A,C,D,E,F,
Georgia	MLST	Yes	Yes	K,S	25	270	4,511,548	204,616	75,341	A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H,I,J,K,M
Hawaii	Alternate	No	No	N	13	55	657,156	21,656	11,544	A,C,D,E,F,J,M
Idaho	None	No	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	755,969	N/A	38,282	A,B,C,D,E,F,G,J,M
Illinois	Alternate/Off-Street	Yes	Yes	S	105	530	7,699,486	540,080	243,789	
Indiana	Alternate	Yes	No	S	34	85	4,754,178	224,226	99,745	A,B,D,F,G,K,L
Iowa	Off-Street	Yes	No	S	143	36	1,976,726	254,780	145,967	C,D,E,F,I
Kansas	Off-Street	Yes	Yes	K,S	130	156	1,725,938	226,830	64,724	A,D,E,F,J,M
Kentucky	Off-Street/On-Street	No	No	N	120	100	2,390,601	87,316	32,054	D,E,F
Louisiana	Off-Street	Yes	Yes	S	80	376	2,613,827	61,219	68,080	C,F,G,J
Maine	Alternate MIT	No	No	N	29	32	866,728	91,552	35,876	C,D,E,F,G,J,M
Maryland	Alternate	Yes	No	N	14	130	3,182,258	166,620	51,358	C,D,E,F,M
Massachusetts	Off-Street	No	No	N	30	100	4,200,000	1,000	59,000	A,F,J
Michigan	Alternate	Yes	Yes	S	75	1,200	6,417,893	413,980	150,000	C,D,E,F,H,J,I,J,M
Minnesota	Alternate	Yes	No	N	99	114	3,096,916	289,996	128,956	D,E,F,I
Mississippi	Alternate MIT	Yes	Yes	N	82	47	2,009,323	UNK	18,41	C,D,E,F,G,K,M
Missouri	Off-Street	Yes	No	N	125	174	3,545,802	253,908	81,123	D,E,F,J
Montana	Alternate	Yes	Yes	N	56	30	680,000	68,000	24,294	A,B,C,D,E,F,G,I,J
Nebraska	Alt. MOST/ MIT	Yes	Yes	K,S	96	70	1,300,000	42,900	29,088	C,D,E,F,H
Nevada	MLST/Off-Street	Yes	Yes	S	7	23	818,314	40,367	17,649	F,G
New Hampshire	Alternate	No	No	S	10	23	799,616	89,297	30,410	C,D,E,F,I,M
New Jersey	Alternate	Yes	No	N	11	200	5,500,000	250,000	77,734	C,D,E,F,H,I,J,K,M
New Mexico	MOST/MLST	Yes	Yes	K,S	60	100	1,071,407	1124	35,421	C,D,E,F,G,J
New York	Off/On-Street	Yes	No	N	100	150	10,177,995	471,013	201,265	F
North Carolina	Off-Street	No	No	N	175	388	4,484,595	237,427	59,991	A,B,C,D,E,F,H,J,L,M
North Dakota	Alternate	Yes	Yes	N	45	32	428,812	36,372	23,978	D,E,F,G
Ohio	Off-Street	Yes	No	N	94	220	7,274,129	550,286	243,885	D,F,H,J,K
Oklahoma	Alternate MIT	No	No	N	93	64	2,292,867	UNK	64,056	C,F,G,J[1]
Oregon	Alternate	Yes	Yes	N	45	170	2,300,000	204,287	71,538	C,D,E,F,I,J
Pennsylvania	Off-Street	Yes	No	K,S	83	115	7,796,615	459,211	174,790	F,J
Rhode Island	Off-Street	Yes	N/A	N	N/A	9	825,500	53,052	N/A	F,G,J
South Carolina	Off-Street	No	Yes	N	60	120	2,376,659	66,341	33,426	A,D,F,H,I,J
South Dakota	MOST/Alternate	Yes	No	K,S	80	45	450,000	45,844	31,421	A,C,D,E,F,G,H,I,J,M
Tennessee	Off-Street	No	No	S	N/A	N/A	N/A	125,000	114,071	C,D,F,G
Texas	Alternate MIT	Yes	No	N	345	408	11,738,602	681,668	206,497	A,C,D,E,F,G,H,I,J,M
Utah	Alternate/MLST	Yes	Yes	N	15	62	1,200,000	76,000	28,900	D,E,F,G,H,I,J,M
Vermont	Alternate	No	No	N	10	13	423,812	45,752	17,438	D,E,F,G,J,K
Virginia	Alternate/Off-Street	Yes	Yes	S	14	220	4,249,563	215,588	66,327	F,G
Washington	Alternate	Yes	Yes	N	57	294	3,272,953	266,630	112,228	D,F
West Virginia	None	No	No	N/A	N/A	70	1,306,440	N/A	26,511	A,F,G,J
Wisconsin	Alternate MIT	Yes	Yes	N	125	200	3,377,446	309,726	167,055	C,D,E,F,J,N
Wyoming	Alternate	Yes	Yes	N	34	85	333,493	36,829	20,050	B,C,D,F,H,I,J

1. Only if greater than 2 brake horsepower

Vehicles Registered as Motorcycles

- A - 3-wheel, all-terrain vehicle
- B - All-terrain with more than 3 wheels
- C - 3-wheel, service vehicle (Cushman type)
- D - Modified 3-wheel (straddle seat)
- E - Modified 3-wheel (bench seat)
- F - Motorcycle with sidecar
- G - Mopeds
- H - No peds (small displacement 2-wheel)
- I - Minibikes
- J - Motorbikes
- K - Golf carts
- L - Snowmobiles
- M - 3-wheels with rear axle tread under 25"
- N - Golf Carts, if no more than 3 wheels

Part Of Motorcycle Test Waived for RiderCourse Graduates

- P - Partial
- N - None
- K - Knowledge
- S - Skill

MOST - Motorcycle Operator Skill Test
MIT - Motorcyclist In-Traffic Test
MLST - Motoryclist Licensing Skill Test
ALTERNATE - Alternate MOST
ALTERNATE MIT - State Specific In-Traffic Test

STATE MOTORCYCLE OPERATOR LICENSING PROCEDURES

1991

STATE	SPECIAL LICENSE OR ENDORSEMENT CODE	DURATION OF LICENSE	LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED TO HOLD PERMIT	LENGTH OF TIME PERMIT IS VALID	MINIMUM AGE FOR A M.C. LICENSE WITHOUT DRIVER EDUCATION	MINIMUM AGE FOR A M.C. LICENSE WITH DRIVER EDUCATION	RIDER EDUCATION PREREQUISITE TO LICENSING	SKILL TEST ADMINISTERED ON APPOINTMENT (APPT) OR WALK-IN (WI) BASIS
Alabama	MDC - C	4	No	N/A	14[7]	N/A	No	N/A
Alaska	M1	5	No	2 years	16	16	No	APPT
Arizona	M	No	6 months	6 months	16	16	No	APPT/WI
Arkansas	M	2-4	No	N/A	16	16	No	WI
California	M1, M2	4	Yes	1 year	21	16	Under 21	APPT
Colorado	M	5	90 days	180 days	16	16	No	APPT/WI
Connecticut	104-7, 204-7, 10S-20S	No	No	60 Days	18	16	Ages 16-17	APPT
Delaware	M	Life	10 days	60 days	18	16	Ages 16-17	WI
D.C.	6,7	4	No	60 days	16	16	No	APPT
Florida	W,T,MICYALSO	4-6[14]	No	90 days	21	15[13]	Under 21	APPT
Georgia	M	4	No	6 months	16	16	No	WI
Hawaii	2	2-4	No	90 days	15[3]	15[3]	No	WI
Idaho	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Illinois	M,L	4	No	1 year	18	16[6]	Ages 16-17	WI
Indiana	MC	2-4	30 days	1 year	16	16	No	WI
Iowa	M,8	2-4[4]	No	2 years	18	16	Ages 16-17	APPT
Kansas	D	4	No	6 months	14	14	No	WI
Kentucky	M	N/A	30 days	6 months	16	16	No	APPT
Louisiana	7,M	N/A	No	N/A	15	15	No	WI
Maine	I,D	4	No	1 year	21	16	Ages 16-20	APPT
Maryland	E,M	4	14 days	180 days	18	16	Ages 16-17	WI
Massachusetts	M	4	No	1 year	17	16 1/2	No	APPT
Michigan	CY	4	No	150 days	18	16	Ages 16-17	APPT
Minnesota	M	4	No	45 days	18	16	Ages 16-17	APPT/WI
Mississippi	E	4	Yes	60 days	15	15	No	WI
Missouri	M	3	No	6 months	16	16	No	WI
Montana	M	4	No	6 months	16	15	No	APPT
Nebraska	M	4	No	1 year	16	16	No	APPT
Nevada	Class 4	4	No	8 months	16	16	No	APPT/WI
New Hampshire	MC	4	No	30 days	18	16	No	APPT
New Jersey	E,F	4	20 days	90 days	17	17	No	APPT
New Mexico	MZ,MY,MW	4	No	6 months	16	13[11]	No	WI
New York	Class 7	4	No	1 year	16	16	No	APPT
North Carolina	MT CYCLE	4	N/A	N/A	18	16	No	APPT/WI
North Dakota	M	4	2 months[8]	6 months	16	14[9]	Ages 14-15	APPT
Ohio	M,M1,M3	4	None	6 months	18	16	Ages 16-17	APPT
Oklahoma	None	N/A	30 days	4 Years	14[15]	14[15]	No	WI
Oregon	M-1,M-2	4	No	1 year	19	16	Ages 16-18	APPT
Pennsylvania	Class 5, M	4	No	120 days	16	16	No	WI
Rhode Island	Class H	5	Yes	30 days	N/A	16	All	N/A
South Carolina	Class 4, M	4	15 days	6 months	16	16	No	APPT/WI
South Dakota	Class 2,3	4	No	N/A	14[12]	14[12]	No	WI
Tennessee	Class M	4	No	1 year	16	16	No	WI
Texas	Class M	4	No	1 year	18	15[10]	Ages 15-17	WI
Utah	M 104,110	4	No	6 months	N/A	16	No	WI
Vermont	1M,1A,1B	N/A	No	60 days	18	16	No	APPT
Virginia	C	5	No	N/A	18	16	No	WI
Washington	1,2 or 3	4	No	90 days	18	16	Ages 16-17	APPT
West Virginia	Yes	Unknown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A
Wisconsin	CIP,PCY,RCY	No limit	10 days	6 months	18	16	No	APPT/WI
Wyoming	M	4	No	1 year	16	16	No	APPT/WI

3 - Restricted to 125cc or less, helmet usage under 18 years of age
4 - Valid 2 years if between 15-24 or 65 and over; valid 4 years if 25-64 years old
6 - 16-18 restricted to 250cc
7 - 14 & 15 year-olds restricted to 125CC
8 - For 14 & 15-year-olds
9 - Restricted to 250cc or less for 14 & 15-year-olds
10 - 15-year-olds restricted to under 125cc
11 - Restricted to 125cc or less
12 - Can only drive between 6 a.m. - 8 p.m.
13 - Restricted to 150cc until age 16
14 - 6-year renewal for safe driver
15 - Under 16 restricted to 125cc or less

PERMIT HOLDERS

1991

STATE	NUMBER OF TIMES LEARNER'S PERMIT CAN BE RENEWED	REQUIREMENTS TO RENEW LEARNER'S PERMIT	COST OF MOTORCYCLE LICENSE ENDORSEMENT	RESTRICTIONS ON LEARNER'S PERMIT
Alabama	N/A	N/A	$15.00	N/A
Alaska	No limit	F,V	$10.00	4
Arizona	No limit	F,V	$10.00	5
Arkansas	N/A	N/A	$2.00	5
California	No limit	F,V,W,S	$10.00	1,2,3
Colorado	No limit	F,V	$16.00	
Connecticut	Two	F	$23.00	1,2,3,5,8
Delaware	One	F	$5.00	None
D.C.	Two	F	$15.00	1,8,9
Florida	Five	V,W	$4.00	1
Georgia	No limit	F,V	$4.50	1,2,3,18
Hawaii	One	F	$1.00-5.00	1,2
Idaho	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Illinois	No limit	F,V,W	$10.00	1,2,10
Indiana	No limit	F,V,W	$3.00	1,2,5
Iowa	No limit	F,V	$1.00/yr.	12
Kansas	No limit	F,V,W	$9.00	12
Kentucky	No limit	F	$2.00	None
Louisiana	N/A	N/A	$8.00	N/A
Maine	No limit	F,V,W	$10.00	1,2,5
Maryland	Zero	F,V,W	$22.00	11
Massachusetts	No limit	F,V,W	$35.00	1,2,5,7,8
Michigan	No limit	F,V,W	$7.50	1,2,12
Minnesota	One	F	$2.50	1,2,3,5
Mississippi	No limit	F	$5.00	8
Missouri	One	F,V	$1.00	1,2
Montana	One	F	$2.00	12
Nebraska	No limit	F,V	No fee	12
Nevada	No limit	F	$6.00	1,2,3,11
New Hamphsire	Two	F	$35.00	1,2
New Jersey	No limit	F	$2.00	20
New Mexico	Two	F,V,W	$10.00	1,2
New York	One	F	No fee	1,12
North Carolina	N/A	N/A	No fee	N/A
North Dakota	One	F	$8.00	1,2
Ohio	No limit	F,V,W	$6.50	1,2,3,5
Oklahoma	No limit	F	$18.00	2,6,11
Oregon	Zero	F,V,W	$30.00	1,2,5,11
Pennsylvania	No limit	F	$7.00	1,2,12*
Rhode Island	Zero			
South Carolina	One	F,V,W	$12.00	
South Dakota	N/A	N/A	$6.00	N/A
Tennessee	Zero	N/A	$17.00	1,2,3,13,14
Texas	One	F,V	$21.00	12
Utah	No limit	F	$5.00	1,2
Vermont	One	F,W	$4.00	1,2,8
Virginia	N/A	N/A	$1.00/yr.	N/A
Washington	One	F	$7.50	1,2,3,10
West Virginia	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wisconsin	No limit	F	$4.00	2,5,7
Wyoming	No limit	F,V,W,S	$10.00	1

P - Pay fee
V - Vision test
W - Written test
S - Skill test

1 - No passengers
2 - Daylight only
3 - Restricted roadways
4 - In visual sight of 19-year-old motorcycle licensed for 1 year
5 - Helmet usage
6 - Cycle size limitations
7 - Eye protection
8 - In-state only
9 - Under 18
10 - Must have a 1, 3 or 5-year licensed rider accompany
11 - Must be in visual sight of 21-year-old with motorcycle license
12 - In visual sight of a licensed motorcycle operator
13 - Limited to a 20-mile radius from home
14 - Maximum engine size 650cc
15 - Corrective lens (if needed)
16 - Permits issued at the age of 15, must be 16 to get a motorcycle license
17 - If permit is expired
18 - All safety equipment required by law
19 - If not on initial license duplication fee charged
20 - Applicant accompanied by New Jersey licensed operator
21 - If applicant has more than 5 points within preceding 2 years
22 - Unless added after initial license, $5.00
23 - Motorcycle only
* - Exceptions to the rule

This information was assembled by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation Licensing Department. Licensing authorities in all 50 states and the District of Columbia were directly contacted by MSF for an update on the information listed in this chart.

Although this information was obtained from the most authoritative sources available as of July 1990, the Motorcycle Safety Foundation is not responsible for its accuracy or completeness.

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